

# SPAWN

BATTLE FOR THE COSTUME







## PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Jim finds himself in “the white” with Twitch’s deceased son, Max, and learns the dangers of Bludd. After hearing Bludd’s origin story, Jim must help the souls stuck in Limbo avoid Bludd’s wrath by leaving with his costume. If Bludd succeeds in taking control of the costume, no one is safe. As he leaves “the white” Jim discovers Max and Twitch’s connection.

Meanwhile, in Staten Island, NY, Twitch contemplates life without Max, but realizes those still on earth are too precious to leave behind.



**Jim Downing (Spawn)** – A man whose past is shrouded in mystery, and connected intimately to the very fabric of the Spawn mythos, Jim is the world’s newest Hellspawn...and so much more. Having spent years in a deep coma, Jim’s main drive is piecing together the fragments of the man he was, in an effort to discover the man he truly is.



**Detective “Twitch” Williams** – Twitch, and his partner Sam, have long been embroiled in the deeper mysteries connected to the Hellspawn – first with Jim’s predecessor, Al Simmons, and now with Jim. Twitch is unsure of Jim’s true motivations, and is haunted by the painful reminder of his son, Max, that was result of his first encounter Jim.



**Max Williams** – The deceased son of Detective Twitch Williams, Max has an unfortunate and sorted past, despite an overall innocence of mind and spirit. Now trapped “between” life and death, Max holds information key to Jim’s struggle for control.

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5:15 A.M.



\* See last issue -- Todd.

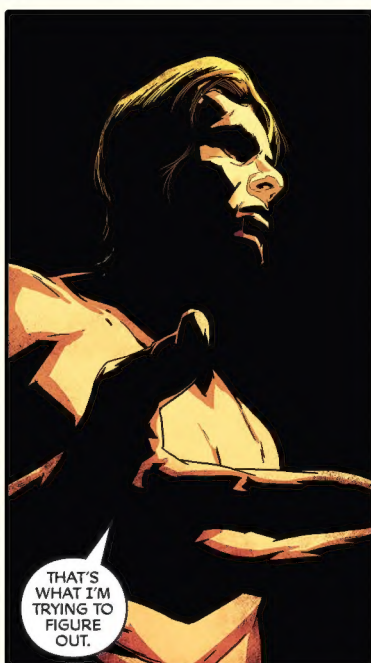






Uh?!









NEVER MIND. IT WAS THE START OF A BAD JOKE. SO--THERE'S NOTHING YOU RECALL THAT'S GIVEN YOU YOUR SUDDEN URGE TO HARASS ME?

A DREAM... MAYBE. BUT IT WAS JUST A BUNCH OF BRIGHT LIGHTS.



LET ME ASK YOU. WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MY COSTUME?



IN WHAT WAY?



IN ANY WAY, I'VE BEEN FIGHTING IT. TRYING TO SUPPRESS IT. LIKE A HEADACHE THAT WON'T GO AWAY.



JUST LIKE SOME KID IN MY DREAM. I THINK HE WAS WARNING ME ABOUT MY COSTUME.

A KID?

WHAT COLORS WERE THOSE BRIGHT LIGHTS?



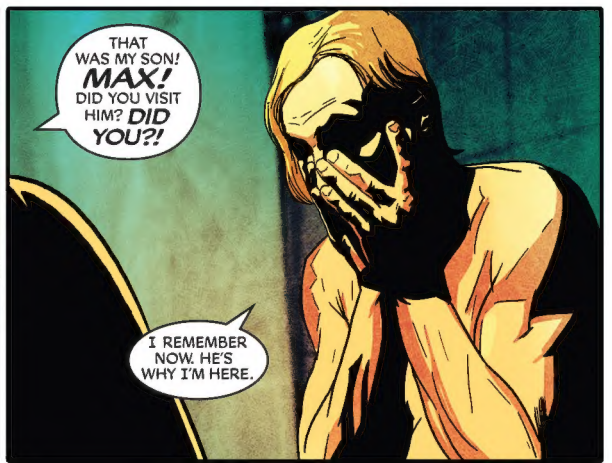
IN MY DREAM?

YES!

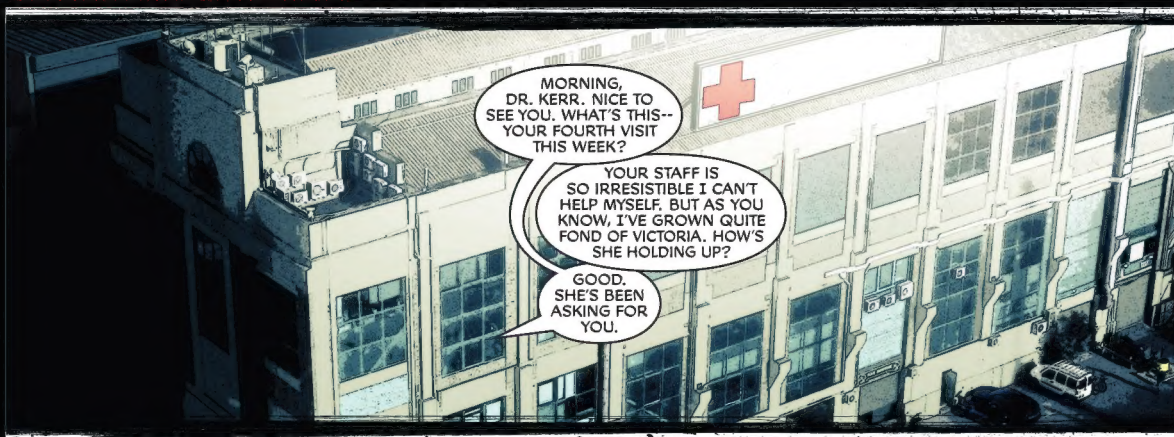
WHITE.

WAS EVERYTHING WHITE? EVERYTHING AROUND YOU?!













I MUST  
ADMIT...



...I'M IMPRESSED  
BY YOUR DISGUISE.  
PASSING YOURSELF OFF AS A  
PHYSICIAN MUST HAVE TAKEN  
SOME THOUGHTFUL PLANNING.  
HOW ELSE COULD YOU HAVE  
BUILT ENOUGH TRUST TO BE  
ABLE TO TRANSFER YOUR  
'SPECIAL' PATIENT SO  
FAR AWAY?

AND TO HAVE  
OTHERS VOUCH FOR YOUR  
MEDICAL CREDENTIALS, OR TO  
GET SOME TO CREATE AN ENTIRE  
PERSONA-- EVEN ON THE INTERNET  
IF THEY WANTED TO SEARCH FOR  
YOU-- SIMPLY BRILLIANT! I HAVEN'T  
GIVEN YOU ENOUGH CREDIT FOR  
HOW DECEITFUL YOU  
CAN BE.

I  
APOLOGIZE...



I WON'T  
MAKE THAT  
MISTAKE  
AGAIN.





NOW... DO  
ME A FAVOR  
AND DROP THE  
ILLUSION.

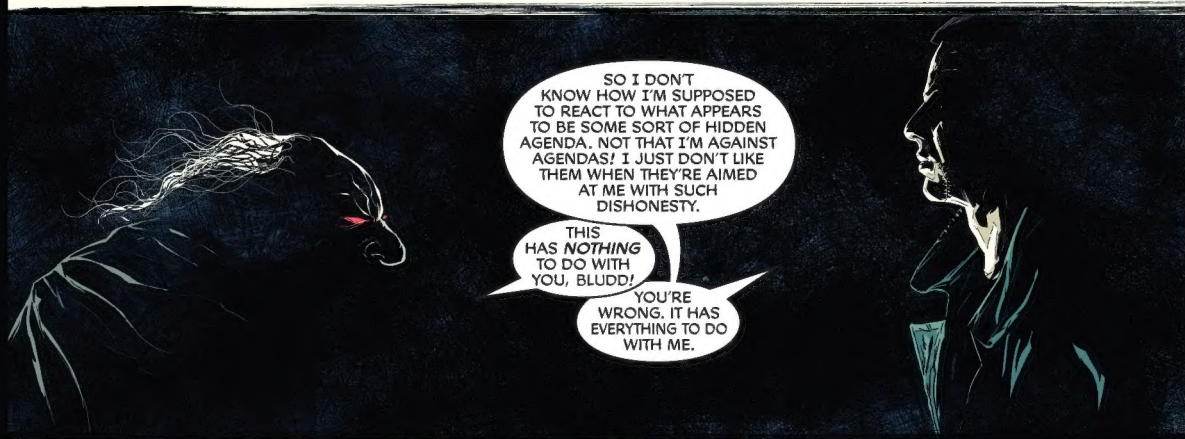
I CAN'T  
STAND THOSE  
WHO AREN'T  
COMFORTABLE  
IN THEIR OWN  
SKIN.



HA! THAT'S  
CALLING THE  
KETTLE BLACK,  
ISN'T IT?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

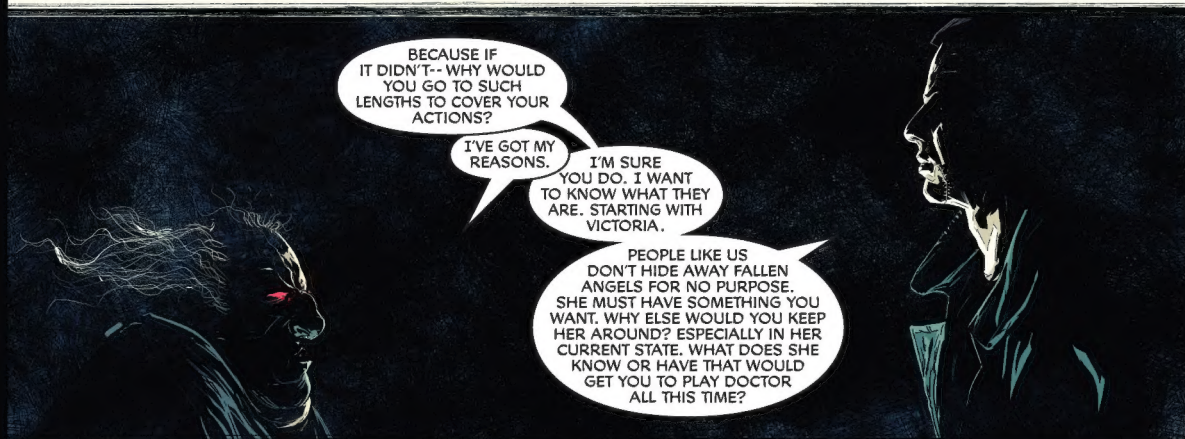
HONESTY.  
LET'S START WITH  
THAT. BECAUSE AS MUCH  
AS WE LIKE GETTING ON  
EACH OTHER'S NERVES  
I ALWAYS FELT WE HAD  
A FEW COMMON  
GOALS.



SO I DON'T  
KNOW HOW I'M SUPPOSED  
TO REACT TO WHAT APPEARS  
TO BE SOME SORT OF HIDDEN  
AGENDA. NOT THAT I'M AGAINST  
AGENDAS! I JUST DON'T LIKE  
THEM WHEN THEY'RE AIMED  
AT ME WITH SUCH  
DISHONESTY.

THIS  
HAS NOTHING  
TO DO WITH  
YOU, BLUDD!

YOU'RE  
WRONG. IT HAS  
EVERYTHING TO DO  
WITH ME.




BECAUSE IF  
IT DIDN'T-- WHY WOULD  
YOU GO TO SUCH  
LENGTHS TO COVER YOUR  
ACTIONS?

I'VE GOT MY  
REASONS.

I'M SURE  
YOU DO. I WANT  
TO KNOW WHAT THEY  
ARE. STARTING WITH  
VICTORIA.

PEOPLE LIKE US  
DON'T HIDE AWAY FALLEN  
ANGELS FOR NO PURPOSE.  
SHE MUST HAVE SOMETHING YOU  
WANT. WHY ELSE WOULD YOU KEEP  
HER AROUND? ESPECIALLY IN HER  
CURRENT STATE. WHAT DOES SHE  
KNOW OR HAVE THAT WOULD  
GET YOU TO PLAY DOCTOR  
ALL THIS TIME?





YOU WANT  
HONESTY? HOW'S THIS...

**GO F#CK  
YOURSELF!**

YOU KNOW  
EXACTLY WHY I'M  
DOING THIS! SOMEONE  
SENT HER AT THE EXACT MOMENT  
DOWNING SNAPPED OUT OF HIS  
COMA. ALMOST LIKE THEY KNEW  
IT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN!  
YOU KNOW WHAT  
THAT MEANS?




GOD'S  
AFRAID.



EXACTLY!

MY BET IS HE  
WAS TRYING TO RECRUIT  
DOWNING SO HE COULD GET  
HIS HANDS ON HIS COSTUME.  
GOD'S AWARE OF THE SAME  
THING WE ARE-- WHOEVER  
CONTROLS THE SUIT RULES  
EVERYTHING!



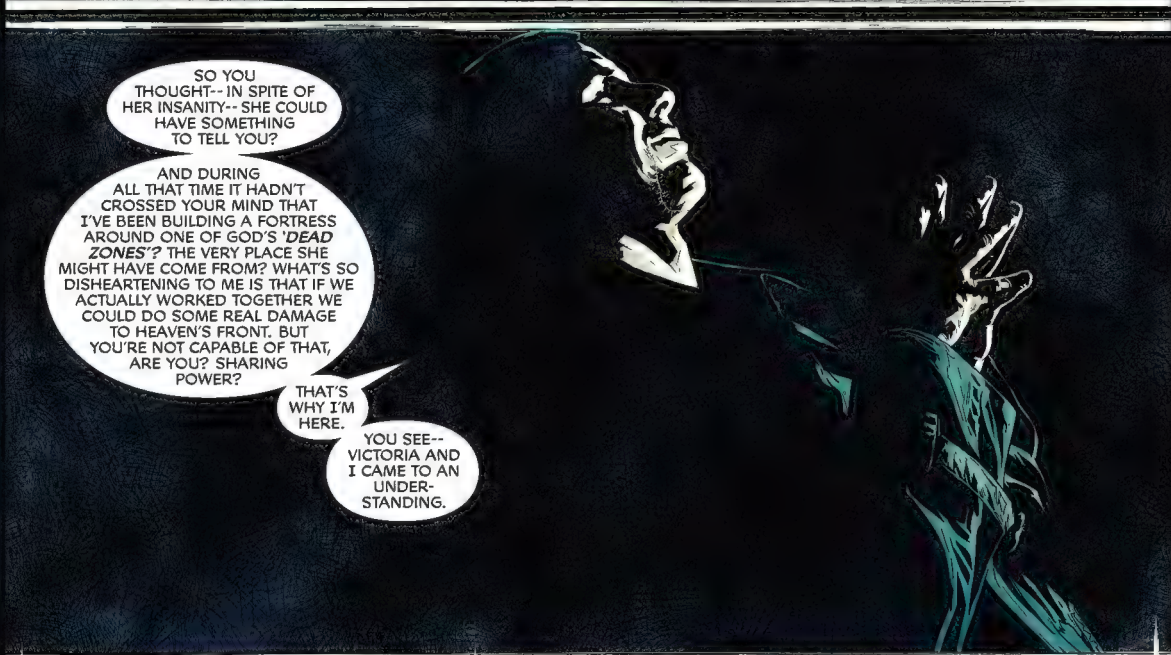
I WASN'T  
ABOUT TO GIVE HIM  
THE CHANCE TO DO  
THAT. SO I HAD TO  
IMPROVISE...  
**QUICKLY!\***





WHAT'S  
THE DOCTOR  
THING  
ABOUT?

BECAUSE SHE  
WAS GONE WHEN I  
WENT BACK FOR HER. THE  
AUTHORITIES PROBABLY PICKED  
HER UP. AND I DIDN'T THINK  
STEALING A WOUNDED WOMAN  
FROM A HOSPITAL WOULD SHOW  
GREAT SUBTLETY. TOO MANY  
QUESTIONS WOULD HAVE  
BEEN ASKED AND I DIDN'T  
KNOW WHAT SHE HAD  
TOLD ANYONE.



SO YOU  
THOUGHT-- IN SPITE OF  
HER INSANITY-- SHE COULD  
HAVE SOMETHING  
TO TELL YOU?

AND DURING  
ALL THAT TIME IT HADN'T  
CROSSED YOUR MIND THAT  
I'VE BEEN BUILDING A FORTRESS  
AROUND ONE OF GOD'S 'DEAD  
ZONES'? THE VERY PLACE SHE  
MIGHT HAVE COME FROM? WHAT'S SO  
DISHEARTENING TO ME IS THAT IF WE  
ACTUALLY WORKED TOGETHER WE  
COULD DO SOME REAL DAMAGE  
TO HEAVEN'S FRONT. BUT  
YOU'RE NOT CAPABLE OF THAT,  
ARE YOU? SHARING  
POWER?

THAT'S  
WHY I'M  
HERE.

YOU SEE--  
VICTORIA AND  
I CAME TO AN  
UNDER-  
STANDING.



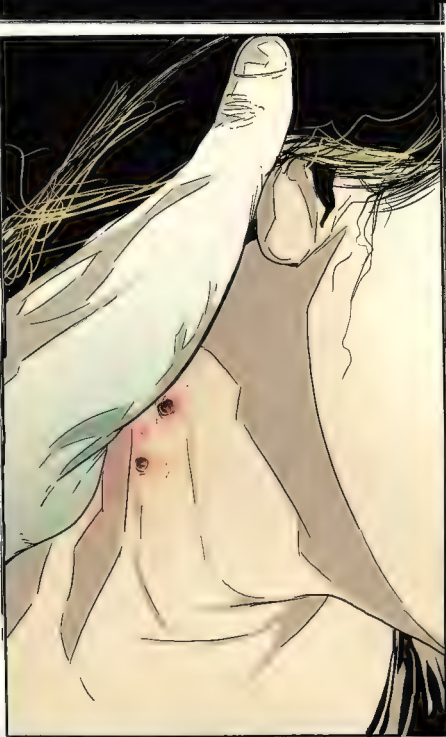
WHAT'RE  
YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?





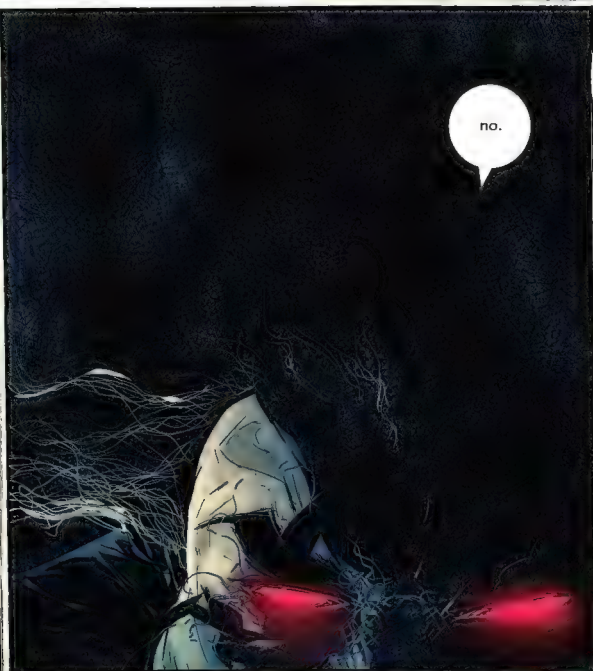
SHE'S  
NOT YOURS  
ANY-  
MORE.

SHE'S  
MINE.



THAT'S  
IT...

SHOW  
HIM YOUR  
PRETTY  
SMILE.



no.







FOOL!  
DO YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'VE  
DONE?

SHE'S  
RUINED! NOW  
NEITHER OF US  
WILL GET WHAT  
WE WANT.

THAT'S WHAT  
HAPPENS WHEN  
YOU CON ME. YOU  
CAME TO ME FIRST--  
REMEMBER THAT? YOU  
WERE THE ONE THAT  
SAID WE COULD TAKE  
DOWN THIS NEW  
SPAWN AND STAND  
UP TO MALEBOLGIA  
IF WE STOOD  
TOGETHER.



BUT YOU NEVER  
MEANT IT, DID YOU? YOU  
ONLY WANTED TO USE ME AND MY  
ARMY TO HELP ELIMINATE A FEW OF  
YOUR ENEMIES THAT YOU COULDN'T  
HANDLE ALONE. AND ONCE THEY WERE  
GONE YOU WERE GOING TO TURN  
ON ME BECAUSE YOU WANT ALL  
THE GLORY FOR YOURSELF.  
DON'T YOU?




YOU STILL  
THINK MALEBOLGIA  
SHOULD HAVE LET YOU  
BE THE LEADER OF HIS  
ARMY INSTEAD OF THE  
HUMAN SPAWNS. BUT  
HE DIDN'T. YOU  
KNOW WHY?

HE  
COULDN'T  
TRUST  
YOU.



GOODBYE,  
CLOWN.







QUITE A HOT  
STREAK. FIRST GOD  
ABANDONS YOU. THEN  
BLUDD TOSSES YOU ASIDE.  
YOU'VE GOTTA FEEL  
PRETTY GOOD ABOUT  
YOURSELF.



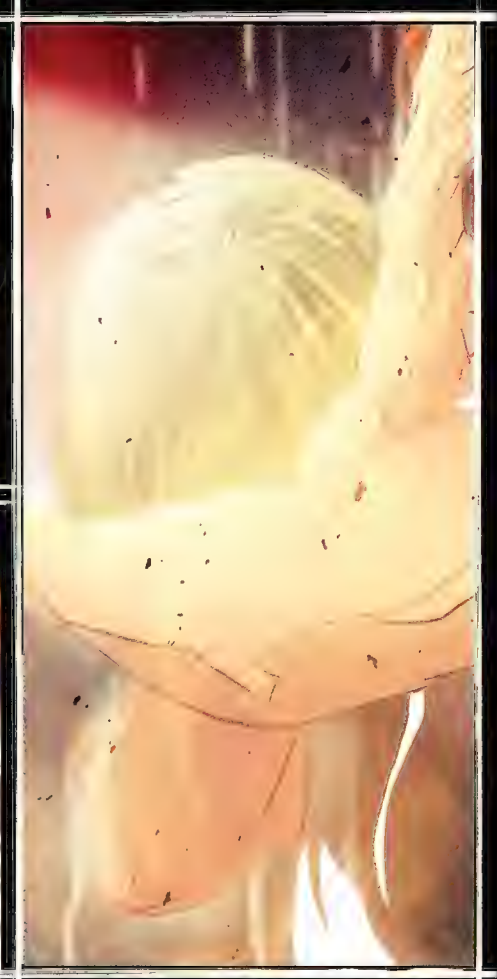
NICE.



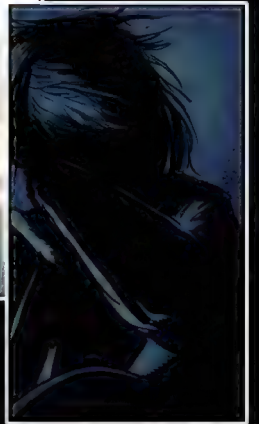
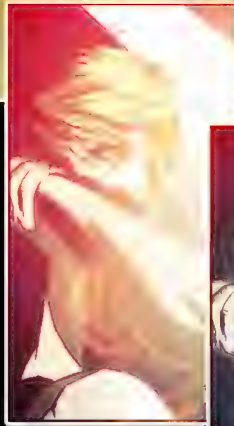
YOU'VE STILL  
GOT A SPARK  
OF EMOTION  
LEFT INSIDE. I  
CAN WORK  
WITH THAT.



BUT FIRST  
THERE'S SOME-  
THING I NEED TO  
TEACH YOU.







HURTS,  
DOESN'T  
IT?

ESPECIALLY  
WHEN YOU'RE  
A NEW VAMPIRE.  
SUNLIGHT WON'T KILL  
YOU-- BUT FROM  
WHAT I'VE BEEN  
TOLD IT BURNS  
LIKE HELL!

SO  
BLUDD MAY  
HAVE TOSSED  
YOU ASIDE, BUT I  
STILL INTEND ON  
GETTING WHAT  
I WANT FROM  
YOU.

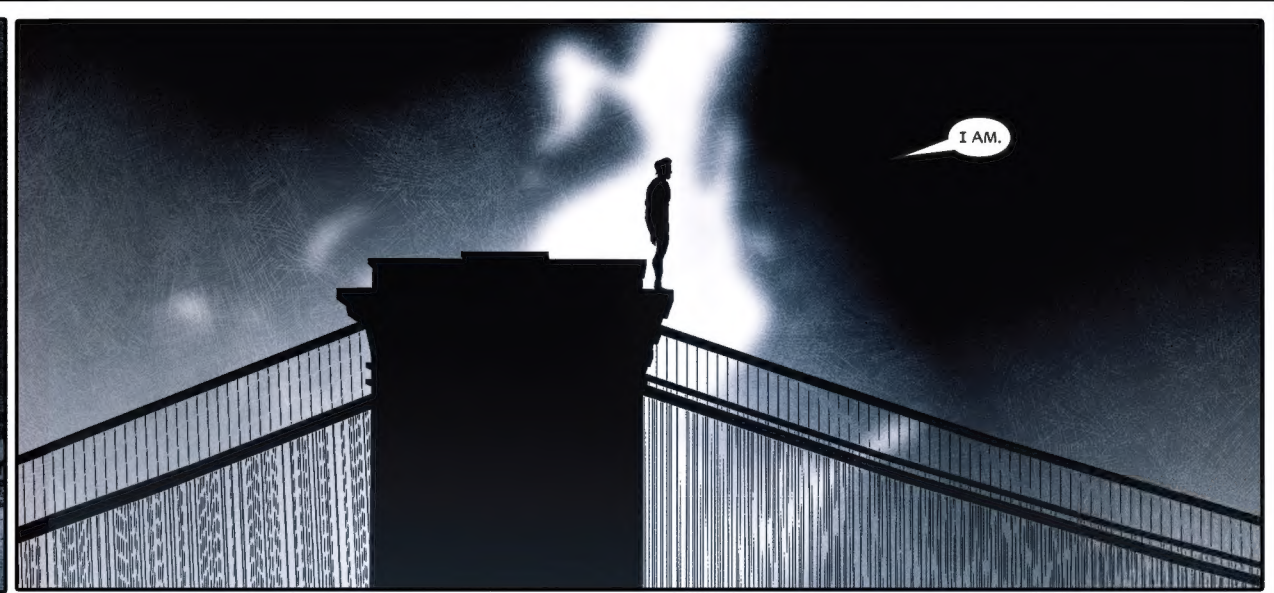




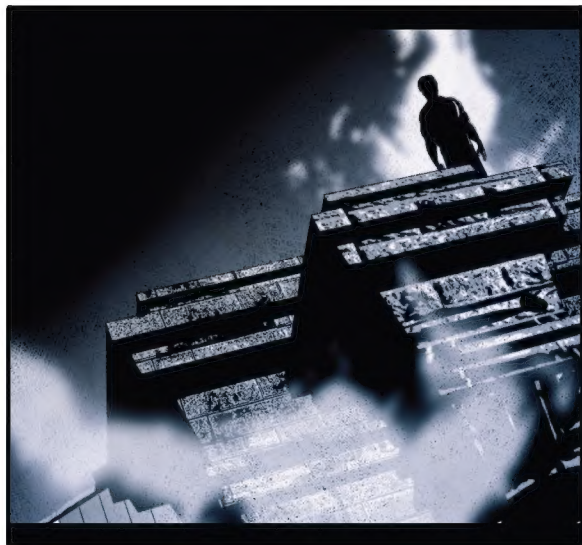
AND IF BLUDD  
HAD STUCK AROUND  
INSTEAD OF ACTING SO  
ARROGANT-- HE WOULDN'T  
HAVE MADE THE CRITICAL  
MISTAKE OF ASSUMING  
I'VE NEVER DEALT WITH  
HYBRIDS BEFORE.

I COULD HAVE  
INTRODUCED HIM TO  
ANOTHER WARRIOR OF  
GOD'S WHO'S BEEN BITTEN.  
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MY  
**REDEEMER?**

















Tyrant  
Lizard  
King

EMPIRE